

09/530747 #3  
422 Rec'd PCT/PTO 04 MAY 2000  
PATENT APPLICATION 125-0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application  
Based on International Application No. PCT/EP98/06961  
Filed November 3, 1998  
Inventor(s) KESSLER *et al.*

For: **SPECIFIC AND SENSITIVE NUCLEIC ACID DETECTION METHOD**

Attorney Docket No. 4817/0R

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Alameda, CA 94501  
Date: May 4, 2000

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-referenced application as entering the National Stage under 35 U.S.C. §371, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

At page 1, line 1, of the amendment of claims under PCT Article 19, please delete "Claims" and insert therefor --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: --.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method [Method] for the detection of a nucleic acid comprising the steps:

A1  
sub B1  
C1